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TITLE : PREPARATION OF WATER-SOLUBLE CHITOSAN SALT POWDER

ABSTRACT : PURPOSE: To prepare the subject powder which is colorless and is rapidly and homogeneously dissolved in water, by grinding a completely frozen sponge-like molded item obtd. by freeze-drying an aq. soln. of chitosan in a mineral acid or an org. acid.

CONSTITUTION: A powdery chitosan is added and stirred in water and a mineral acid or an org. acid (e.g., hydrochloric acid, acetic acid, propionic acid, etc.) is added thereto to dissolve chitosan completely. A sponge-like molded item is obtd. from this soln. and is ground. As this method where the chitosan salt is dried under a frozen solid condition causes less deterioration of quality such as discoloration, decrease in viscosity etc. than the conventional method where dehydration and drying are carried out under soln. condition and a sponge-like porous molded item can be obtd., the powder obtd. therefrom exhibits good solubility in water and is suitably used in the fields of cosmetics, medicines and foods.

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